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It seems that our society has grown to believe that blame is the best course of action to take. People tend to not take responsibility for their doings. This is troubling because the real problems in society are not being addressed. Assault weapons. This is a term crafted by gun-control activist <u>Josh Sugarmann</u>, author of the 1988 book "Assault Weapons and Accessories in America" who wrote:

Assault weapons—just like armor-piercing bullets, machine guns, and plastic firearms—are a new topic. The weapons' menacing looks, coupled with the public's confusion over fully automatic machine guns versus semi-automatic assault weapons—anything that looks like a machine gun is assumed to be a machine gun—can only increase the chance of public support for restrictions on these weapons.

Seems like a manipulation tactic to me. This whole way of thought preys on the people's ignorance of weapons. Such is the timing in toying with the emotions of the people and implementing these new proposals after such a devastating tragedy in Newtown CT.

The sort of thinking like Rahm Emanual stating never let a tragedy go to waste.

The AR-15, one of the rifles that became an assault weapon with the passage of the AWB because of its physical characteristics, is a .223 caliber. The .223 is smaller and less lethal than many rifle calibers. In some states, a .223 is not permitted for hunting big game because of the caliber's ineffectiveness at bringing down animals such as deer and elk.

So the argument stating that the AR-15's "high caliber" round is in fact a high caliber round is inappropriate.

Research by noted firearms researcher <u>David B. Kopel</u> shortly before the AWB was implemented in 1994 revealed that assault weapons were used in less than one percent of gun crime in the U.S.

Shortly after the law was allowed to sunset in 2004, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a study of the AWB, in which it found "insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness" of the law for reducing crime rates.

It is obvious that most of these proposals do not address the criminal but actually the lawabiding citizen.

And another thing, why are politicians members of this so called "ruling class" exempting themselves from these laws allowing themselves to carry and protect their families with an assortment of firearms, but us peons aren't allowed to do the same for ourselves. Are you to sit here and tell me that your lives are more important then my own? Your kids are more important then my own?